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ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A card transporting mechanism for a card reader in which the trailing end of a card as viewed in a card transporting direction is brought into contact with a first card 5 engaging/holding member moving in a card transporting direction, and the card is transported by said first card engaging/holding member, said card transporting mechanism including a carriage movable in the card transporting direction, said first card engaging/holding member being mounted on such that said first card 10 engaging/holding member is movable between a first position where said first card engaging/holding member comes in contact with the trailing end of said card and a second position where said first card engaging/holding member does not come in contact with said card, and a transportation drive member, for transporting the card, 15 coupled to said first card engaging/holding member such that a position of said first card engaging/holding member changes in accordance with a moving direction of said transportation drive member, and when said card travels in a first direction, said first card engaging/holding member is located, by said transportation 20 drive member, at a position where said first card engaging/holding member comes in contact with the trailing end face of said card, and said card is transported by moving said carriage.